

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00778 132145Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EA-07 ACDA-07 DHA-02 /097 W
-----140956Z 111703 /14

R 131535Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6103

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0778

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, WA
SUBJ: CANADIAN BRIEFING OF BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT OF CAPE TOWN TALKS

1. CANADIAN AMBASSADOR GRANDE HAS REQUESTED US TO PASS YOU FOLLOWING REPORT OF HIS MAY 11 MEETING WITH BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT ON CAPE TOWN TALKS. HE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SHARING REPORT WITH BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER AND GERMAN EMBASSY.

2. QUOTE: I SPENT MORE THAN AN HOUR WITH FM MOGWE EARLY MORNING MAY 11. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS PERMSEC AND SEC TO THE CABINET. HE WAS MOST GRATEFUL FOR MY VISIT AS HE WANTED AS MUCH INFO AS POSSIBLE BEFORE GOING TO THE MAPUTO CONG. HE ASKED ABOUT BOTH THE TALKS IN CPTWN AND OUR BRIEFINGS IN WINDHOEK. AT END HE SAID QUOTE WE APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS. OUR AIMS ARE EXACTLY THE SAME. WE WANT THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA TO DECIDE THEIR OWN FUTURE THEMSELVES AND TO HAVE THE NAMIBIAN PROBLEM SETTLED. UNQUOTE.

3. INTER ALIA, FM EXPRESSED VIEW THAT THE MOST DIFFICULT TASK WOULD BE TO GET SWAPO TO AGREE AND TO COOPERATE. HIS OFFICIALS ALSO MENTIONED POTENTIAL DIFFICULTY OF GETTING SUPPORT OF OTHER MEMBERS OF UNSC, SUCH AS USSR AND CHINA. MOGWE ASKED ABOUT PLANS FOR WITHDRAWAL OF RSA FORCES BUT DI NOT RPT NOT OFFER ANY VIEWS AS TO WHO OR WHAT MIGHT FILL THE
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VACUUM IF FORMER WERE WITHDRAWN. I GAVE MY INTREPRETATION OF PHRASE QUOTE IN STAGES UNQUOTE AS APPLYING TO ALL SOUTH AFRICANS IN NAMIBIA, INCLUDING THEIR FORECES.

4.OFFICIALS THOUGHT THAT SWAPO WOULD NEVER AGREE IF RSA FORCES REMAINED. THEY WONDERED IF RSA GOVERNMENT MIGHT AGREE TO WITHDRAW AT LEAST SOME OF ITS FORCES SOON (TO MAKE IT

EASIER FOR SWAPO TO COOPERATE). MIN ASKED WHETHER ETHNICITY WOULD REMAIN UNDER FUTURE GOVERNMENT. I REPLIED THAT THIS WOULD DEPEND ON COMPLEXION AND DECISION OF THAT GOVERNMENT. I ADDED THAT TURNHALLE CHAIRMAN MUDGE HAD INDICATED THAT THE FIRST TASK OF THE SWA INTERIM GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE BEEN TO REPEAL AS MUCH DISCRIMINATORY LEGISLATION AS POSSIBLE.

5. MOGWE WAS VERY INTERESTED IN HEARING THE CHURCHES VIEWS GIVEN TO US IN WINDHOEK, AND I BRIEFED HIM FULLY ON THESE, INCLUDING THEIR MAJORITY VIEW THAT SWAPO'S POLITICAL STRENGTH WAS GAINING INSIDE NAMIBIA AND THAT THEY WOULD WIN A FREE ELECTION AT THIS TIME. FM THEN ASKED IF WE INTENDED TO BRING MORE COUNTRIES INTO THE EXERCISE, OR AT LEAST TO INFORM MORE. HE APPRECIATED FACT WE WERE BEING IMPARTIAL AS TO OUTCOME. HE WAS INTERESTED TO HEAR MY IMPRESSION THAT WHITES IN TURNHALLE GROUP SEEMED LESS OPPOSED TO OUR PLAN THEN DID THE BLACKS.

6. FM OBVIOUSLY APPRECIATED GREATLY MY COMING TO GABORONE FOR PURPOSE OF INFORMING HIM ABOUT OUR EFFORTS, PARTICULARLY AS I HAD PARTICIPATED IN BOTH CPTWN AND SWA MTGS. HE CALLED ME QUOTE THE MISSING LINK UNQUOTE WHEN I ARRIVED. I WOULD STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT I CONTINUE THIS PRACTICE OF BRIEFING MOGWE AFTER FUTURE MTGS, EVEN IF (AS WAS THE CASE THIS TIME) I CANNOT ARRIVE IN TIME FOR THE JOINT BRIEFING.

7. AFTER FM HAD LEFT, OFFICIALS ASKED ME ABOUT TIMING OF ELECTIONS. I SAID WE HAD EMPHASIZED THE URGENCY TO RSA GOVERNMENT BUT NO RPT NO SPECIFIC TIMETABLE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED. THEY WERE CONFIDENTIAL

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ALSO CONCERNED LEST WE WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE ABLE TO GET RSA TO AGREE TO ALL ELEMENTS OF SC 385.. THEY WONDERED IF THE FIVE WOULD PROCEED WITHOUT SWAPO AGREEMENT AND/OR WITHOUT UNSC AGREEMENT. THEY WERE OBVIOUSLY IMPRESSED WITH APPARENT RSA CONCESSIONS WE HAD ALREADY OBTAINED BECAUSE, QUOTE OUT OF CONTEXT, I WAS ASKED IF WESTERN COUNTRIES WERE RECONSIDERING THEIR POLICY OF NOT RPT NOT RECOGNIZING TRANSKEI AND, AT END OF YEAR, BUPHUTATSWANA. OBVIOUSLY THEY WERE WONDERING HOW WE HAD OBTAINED SO MUCH AND, SPECIFICALLY, WHETHER WE HAD MADE A DEAL WITH RSA GOVERNMENT. THEY OF COURSE PUT IT IN A DIPLOMATIC MANNER. I GAVE AN EMPHATIC ASSURANCE THAT OUR NON-RECOGNITION POLICIES WERE NOT RPT NOT BEING CHANGED IN ANY WAY. GRANDE UNQUOTE. NELSON

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Sent Date: 13-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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